

R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-14, 23, 24 and 28-31 currently remain in the application. Claims 3, 7, 15-22 and 25-27 have been withdrawn and claims 1, 9 and 10 are herein amended.

In response to said Final Office Action dated November 16, 2006, applicant mailed a document entitled Amendment "B" After Final Action on January 5, 2007. The present RCE is being submitted in the absence of advisory action expected from the Examiner but not received by applicant. In the present Preliminary Amendment "C", therefore, applicant is amending the claims section in the same way and presenting the same argument as in said Amendment "B". It is therefore requested that the Examiner consider the REMARKS section of said Amendment "B" regarding the amendment presented herein.

It is therefore concluded that applicant believes that the application is now in condition and such an action at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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March 14, 2007
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